

Remarks

Reconsideration and reexamination of the above-identified patent application, as amended, are respectfully requested. Claims 8-12 are pending in this application upon entry of this Amendment. In this Amendment, the Applicant has amended claims 8 and 12; and cancelled claims 1-7 and 13. No claims have been added in this Amendment. Of the pending claims, claim 8 is the only independent claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

In the Office Action mailed June 18, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 8 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner indicated that the limitation "the output device" in lines 14 of claims 8 and 13 has insufficient antecedent basis.

Claim 13 has been cancelled. The Applicant has amended claim 8 to provide antecedent basis for the noted limitation and therefore respectfully requests reconsideration and withdraw of the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,581,464 issued to Woll et al. ("Woll"). The Applicant believes that the claimed invention is patentable over Woll and has amended independent claim 8 to more clearly define thereover.

1. The Claimed Invention

The claimed invention, as recited in amended independent claim 8, is a method for recording motor vehicle data regarding a monitored operating condition of a motor vehicle in response to an occupant of the motor vehicle declaring an event in response to experiencing

irregular behavior of the motor vehicle while the motor vehicle is being driven without being involved in an accident.

The method includes generating sensor signals indicative of motor vehicle data regarding a monitored operating condition of a motor vehicle as a function of time. The sensor signals are written into a memory device as the sensor signals are being generated for storage in the memory device. An occupant of the motor vehicle actuates a switch in order to declare an event in response to the occupant experiencing irregular behavior of the motor vehicle while the motor vehicle is being driven without being involved in an accident. An event signal is generated at the time the occupant of the motor vehicle actuated the switch.

The sensor signal generated at the time the occupant of the motor vehicle actuated the switch is marked. The sensor signals stored in the memory device which were generated at times proximate to the time the occupant of the motor vehicle actuated the switch are then transferred from the memory device to an output device.

2. The Claimed Invention Compared to Woll

The claimed invention generally differs from Woll in that the claimed invention includes an occupant of a motor vehicle declaring an event in response to the occupant experiencing irregular behavior of the motor vehicle while the motor vehicle is being driven without being involved in an accident such that a sensor signal generated at the time the occupant declared the event is marked in order to transfer the sensor signals stored in memory which were generated at times proximate to the time the occupant declared the event.

The Applicant believes that Woll does not teach or suggest such features. Accordingly, the Applicant believes that amended independent claim 8 is patentable over Woll. Claims 9-12 depend from amended independent claim 8 and include the limitations therein. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdraw of the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

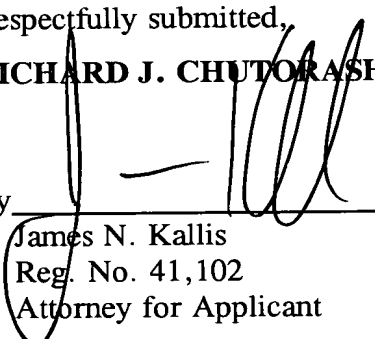
CONCLUSION

In summary, claims 8-12, as amended, meet the substantive requirements for patentability. The case is in appropriate condition for allowance. Accordingly, such action is respectfully requested.

If a telephone or video conference would expedite allowance or resolve any further questions, such a conference is invited at the convenience of the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,
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